



Tuolumne County Public Health Department

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Health and Human Services Agency

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TUOLUMNE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADDRESSES COVID-19 TESTING

Tuolumne County Public Health has heard and understands your concerns regarding the apparent lack of COVID-19 testing in the community. Though no extreme shortages of materials have been reported locally, rural communities throughout California have been struggling with access to more testing and we are currently advocating to our State Officials to be able to increase testing in our community. If you have concerns regarding access to testing, something that you can do is to reach out to your State and Federal elected officials. We want to reassure the community that we and our healthcare partners are doing the best we can with the resources given.

Tuolumne County Public Health does not administer COVID-19 tests, but individuals can contact their healthcare provider for a medical assessment and testing if indicated, or referral to a facility that does testing. As the Public Health Department, we do not dictate who providers can and cannot test.

Even without being able to test everyone in our community, Tuolumne County is testing the same or more individuals per capita than larger areas. Because we will not be able to test every member of our community, it is important to follow all of the Health Officer's Orders especially the Febrile Respiratory Illness Order to stay home when you are sick:

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14185/Health-Officer-Order-FRI-32620>

Since the treatment for COVID-19 is supportive care such as rest and fluids, the important thing to remember is that results or lack of testing does not change the course of treatment. If someone is suspected to have COVID-19 but has not yet received results or is unable to get tested, it is recommended they follow health guidance to self-isolate, monitor symptoms, and stay in touch with their doctor. This is key in preventing the spread of COVID-19 throughout our community. Most cases are mild, and many people are able to recover at home. However, if you are experiencing emergency warning signs, including trouble breathing, you should seek medical attention immediately and call first if you can. If you have more questions regarding COVID-19 please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>

At Tuolumne County Public Health, the health of our community is our top priority. Regardless of the number of confirmed cases in the county, we are fully engaged in numerous aspects of preparing, planning, and implementing pandemic strategies to help combat COVID-19, in coordination with our healthcare, safety, and community partners.

Additional Information:

- Official County website: www.TuolumneCounty.ca.gov/publichealth
- Follow the Tuolumne County Public Health Facebook page for updates
- COVID-19 Public Health Call Center phone number: 209-533-7440 Mon-Fri 9-5
